

Looking for serenity? Try hoofing it

OUT & ABOUT IN UTAH COUNTY

■ Back country: A little horsepower can help trail riders see Mother Nature in all her glory

By Jim Rayburn
Deseret News staff writer

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UTAH COUNTY — Jim Diamond has spent the past 25 years on top of a horse. From the time the snow melts in the spring to the first snowfall of winter, he rides more than 20 miles every day through some of Hobble Creek Canyon's most scenic back country.

He seldom sees anybody, just a few deer, elk and an occasional moose or bear. He travels some of the Wasatch Front's most beautiful country and said the serenity he experiences daily is something others should experience at least once.

"Of course when a guy's covering more than 65,000 acres he doesn't see everything. There's some places that I don't get to in a summer," he said.

The reason Diamond covers so much territory is because it's his job. His family runs about 1,200 head of cattle in the high country of Wadsworth Canyon and Dry Canyon. He makes his daily ride to drop off rock salt and to make sure the cattle are spread out.

But even though it's work to Diamond, he said few things are more peaceful than spending a day

on the back of a horse riding along a mountain trail.

Hobble Creek Canyon is not the only place for local residents to enjoy a back-country horse ride.

Loyal Clark, public information officer for the Forest Service, said Utah County residents are fortunate to have so many scenic mountain trails within an hour's drive.

The Nebo wilderness area up Payson Canyon is probably the most popular spot for local horsemen, especially in the fall when few places are more colorful. Clark said several popular trails come off the Nebo Loop and provide access to the high back country. The Nebo Bench trail and the Losifer Mountain trail are two of the most traveled by horsemen.

But one of the luxuries of riding a horse is that there is no reason to stay on a trail. The most scenic country is usually the farthest from the trail.

"A horse gets a person off the trail and allows them a more scenic view of the country and gets them to places they would normally not see. A horse offers a person more solitude," Clark said.

Clark said the Lone Peak wilderness area is another popular spot for a horse ride. From American Fork Canyon, horsemen usually travel the Deer Creek trail. Dry Canyon trail is the favorite for riders coming from Alpine Canyon.

Clark said riders need to remember that the Forest Service does not allow them to keep horses in campgrounds. However, for those wanting to enjoy a horseback ride and then stay at a campground, the Forest Service has provided a camp-ground on the Nebo Loop designated especially for horsemen. The Blackhawk Campground has a corral and hitching posts for horsemen's convenience.

When riding during a hunting season, riders should dress in the required fluorescent orange.



PHOTOGRAPHY/BOONE J. CHEN
Jim Diamond starts his daily ride up Wadsworth Canyon to check his cattle.

September 28, 1988

Utah's First Polo Club Organized

Wasatch County

Prince Charles: Eat your heart out! Heber Valley has polo, too!

There weren't any Rolls Royces parked around this plowed polo field in Midway, or ladies in filmy dresses and big hats, sipping champagne as they watched the game. And Prince Charles doesn't even know there is a polo club in Heber Valley, Utah. But the members of the *New Sichar Riding Club* are having a darned good time.



Polo, known as the rich man's sport, has come to Wasatch County, organized Indianapolis troops play-

Dear Editor: I would like to comment on the Homecoming Queen Contest that takes place every year at Wasatch High. Years ago, the queen was chosen by the studentbody. The queen was someone that the studentbody wanted to reign as queen over the Homecoming activities.

When did this contest turn into a Miss Wasatch contest. This year the studentbody elected who they would like to run, but they were not to my understanding involved in picking the queen. I find it a little strange that the Homecoming Queen is chosen by judges, when in fact, the queen should be someone that the students like.

The only thing I found missing from this contest was a swimsuit competition, but I guess maybe they will try that next year. In my opinion, the meaning of Homecoming Queen has been lost. It is no longer a contest to pick a queen to rein over the Homecoming activities, it is a beauty contest. If the studentbody can't have a say in who is chosen as queen, then why

Continued on Page 3A

"It's coming back with a real vengeance, lady," he said. "Probably a lot of serious accidents can be dangerous and there were probably a lot of serious accidents during the 1920s," he said.

England, and then to their holdings around the British Empire. Interest spread into the United States where it became the biggest sport in the country during the 1920s, he said.

The Forest Service obviously had other "fish to fry." Instead they opened two areas the loggers had commercially bid...After all, the loggers had left a mess of tree tops and branches. The Forest Service needed this area cleaned up so they opened those two areas to public cutting — after all the money is in the bank and they don't refund on the timber.

When I voiced my complaint at the Heber Forest Service headquarters that the road was dangerous,

The unusual name they have chosen, Slichar, was the name of the first organized polo club in his story, in India. They thought it would be appropriate because they are the first in Utah.

"Perhaps we'll build up some little bit more sophisticated than what we have, as I'm sure they're spending more money," Mr. Proctor said.

"I don't think anybody's having more fun than we're having, everybody's having some little bit more sophisticated than what we have, as I'm sure they're spending more money," Mr. Proctor said.

"Playing what they call logo polo isn't much slower so that we're not wasting our horses out and we can keep the expenses down we have a lot of people who don't have polo saddles, and that sort of thing. We're just happy to let people play, with whatever equipment they have, as long as they have a mallet." he said.

I came to two stark realizations the other day — first, fall is just around the corner, with winter close on its heels, and second, I'm not ready to give up summer!

I'm not sure where the summer vanished to, but even as I am writing this column, it is silently slipping away and there are already several tell-tale signs of the impending colder seasons showing themselves — it is no longer light when my alarm clock goes off in the morning; a jacket feels great in the evening; the thermostat has been kicked up; there is an abundance of campaign posters and my husband's chin is covered with whiskers! Plainly speaking, there's

There are no rules governing the breed of horse the players can ride but they must be trained not to shy off a mallets swinging past their heads, and to handle the close muzzles and bumping that happens.

They also play on a scalded dove field, and it is literally only mowed, open field. Mr. Proctor says when the horses get tired, the game has to end. They play a slow game not only because they are beginners, but also because they are quicker than the horses, and the sooner the game has ended.

Silcher Polo Club, is learning to play polo on western saddles. However, some of the English polo clubs still use leather stirrups, while others use leather boots to protect the legs from the saddle. The men, like helmets and knee-high men, for the safety of the equipment is for the safety of the horse and rider.

I started my spring cleaning!

I'm just plain not ready. I have planned on getting some serious camping done this summer. I haven't even pulled out the sleeping bags. I was going to get in shape by riding my bicycle, which is still hanging in the rafters out in the garage. There were several odds and ends around the house that I was planning to get done before the weather turned cool, and most

Every year I sing the same song — "Where has all the summer gone? Long time passing!" It happens every year about this time the weather changes, the leaves change, the temperature changes and each year it seems earlier than

Mr. Proctor explained that the high level of polo competition heard of anyone getting out of it. The field is triple the width over nine acres. A player needs to saddle horses, each with its own equipment of a football field, a little over eight acres. A player needs to saddle and pack, to trade off durability through battles, each with its own saddle and pack, to make it the game that's what makes it the game.

"They say it's a rich man's sport we play anyway," said Mr. Pricot, who organized the Natick Polo Club, the first in U.S. to be sanctioned by the United States Polo Association.



Wagon trains rolled through Wasatch County this weekend as members of Vision Quest continued their trek through Utah. Vision Quest is an organization that allows youths from disadvantaged backgrounds to gain self confidence by participating in a wagon trek. The wagon train spent the weekend camped at the Wasatch County fair grounds.

Help For Parents Seminar

"How To Be a Better Parent," is the subject of a free lecture presented by Wasatch County Hospital on Thursday, Sept. 29, from 10 to 11 a.m. in the hospital cafeteria.

Well known author and child psychologist, Dr. Anthony LaPray, will help parents discover positive discipline methods that will improve a child's behavior without damaging his self-esteem.

All parents in Wasatch and Summit Counties are invited to attend — free babysitting will be provided.

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SHE'S HAVING
A BABY

♂ ♀ * + ∞

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Heber City Banker Named County Hospital Board



Dean C. Edwards

The Governing Board of Intermountain Health Care's Wasatch County Hospital recently announced the appointment to that

board of Dean C. Edwards, Heber City, who is Assistant Vice President and Manager of the Heber City Branch of First Security Bank.

Wayne Terry, IHC Wasatch County Hospital Administrator, said he was pleased that Edwards chose to accept the invitation to serve on the hospital's Governing Board.

"This is a position that is all volunteer and involves a commitment of some time," Terry said. "We're very honored that Dean would chose to join with us in helping maintain the quality of service the residents of the Heber Valley and surrounding areas are used to in terms of the health care they are offered."

Edwards, who graduated from Bear River High School in Tremonton, said that on moving to Heber City two years ago one of the first things that impressed him